



LAERSKOOL VREDENBURG PRIMARY SCHOOL

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CIRCULAR 3/2026 [2026.06.26]

FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parents,

School Day 54 of the Second Term – **We Made It!** May the rushing around and busy schedules that drive us never come at the expense of our children's emotional well-being and development. A child with **VALUES** is worth far more than a child with a **VICTORY**.

CHILDREN LEARN FROM THE WAY THEY LIVE

If a child lives with **CRITICISM**, they learn to **condemn**.
 If a child lives with **HOSTILITY**, they learn to **fight**.
 If a child lives with **RIDICULE**, they learn to be **shy**.
 If a child lives with **SHAME**, they learn to feel **guilty**.
 If a child lives with **TOLERANCE**, they learn to be **patient**.
 If a child lives with **ENCOURAGEMENT**, they learn to be **confident**.
 If a child lives with **PRAISE**, they learn to **appreciate**.
 If a child lives with **FAIRNESS**, they learn to have **faith**.
 If a child lives with **APPROVAL**, they learn to **like themselves**.
 If a child lives with **ACCEPTANCE** and **FRIENDSHIP**, they learn to **discover love** in the world. (Dorothy Law Nolte)



We would like to communicate a few changes to our programme and share the goals that underpin our vision and mission at Vredenburg Primary School.

The CHILD is our client, and everything we do will ALWAYS BE IN THEIR BEST INTERESTS.

Friendly Greetings.

Nicoleen Loubser (PRINCIPAL)

IN A WORLD
WHERE YOU
CAN BE ANYTHING
BE KIND.



SCHOOL PROGRAMME and TIMES

The school hours for the third term of 2026 will CHANGE for GRADE 1 and GRADE 2.

- ✓ **DISCIPLINE** begins with punctuality.
- ✓ **SCHOOL STARTS PROMPTLY AT 07:45 FOR ALL LEARNERS.**

- ✓ The **South African Schools Act** stipulates that children between the ages of **7 and 16** are **required by law** to **attend school** and must attend from the **first to the last day of each school term**.
- ✓ **CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM**, without a valid reason, often leads to poor academic performance, anxiety, and the loss of friendships.

REVISED SCHOOL AND EXTRAMURAL PROGRAMME

Grade 1	Mondays and Wednesday	School closes at 13:00.
	Tuesdays and Thursdays	School closes at 13:45.
	Fridays	School closes at 13:15.
Grade 2	Mondays and Wednesday	School closes at 13:45.
	Tuesdays and Thursdays	School closes at 13:15.
	Fridays	School closes at 13:15.
Grade 3	Mondays to Thursdays	School closes at 14:00.
	Fridays	School closes at 13:15.
Grades 4 – 7	Mondays to Thursdays	School closes at 14:15.
	Fridays	School closes at 13:30.

After extensive research, discussions with other schools, and drawing on the experience and expertise of our own staff, we are reviewing **Vredenburg Primary School's** extracurricular programme and setting out clear guidelines and objectives regarding junior sports development and participation:

1. **MASS PARTICIPATION** is intended to create opportunities for development. Not every child who attends a practice has the skills or knowledge required to participate in matches.
2. **MATCHES** at the **7- to 9-year-old** level are not even intended to focus on scores or winning. Yet children still burst into tears when we "lose."
3. **OPEN COMMUNICATION CHANNELS** have always been intended to keep all parents informed, not to create a platform where criticism, confrontational questions, or conflict are encouraged.

I would like to draw your attention to several current topics in the media, both nationally and internationally: **SPORT IS TAKING OVER SCHOOLS**

- ✓ **FEDSAS** (the Federation of Governing Bodies of South African Schools) recently hosted a webinar to warn schools about legislation relating to sports scholarships for high-performing learners. I was astonished—and, in fact, deeply disappointed—by the **decline in integrity and the violation of children's rights** for the sake of sport, or rather, for the sake of winning.
- ✓ Changing the Game, written by John O'Sullivan, is an outstanding book (from a First World perspective) that examines why **70% of children stop participating in organised sport before the age of 13**. I would like to share the five main reasons with you:
 1. **It's no longer fun** due to the expectations of various role players (parents, coaches and teammates).
 2. **They have lost ownership of the experience** due to various role players (parents, coaches and teammates) having different reasons or motivations for playing.
 3. **Playing time** – 90% of children would rather play on a losing team than sit the bench on a winning team.
 4. **They are afraid to make mistakes** – various role players (parents, coaches and teammates) criticise.
 5. **They feel disrespected** – lack of respect and encouragement by various role players (parents, coaches and teammates).



HOW ARE WE GOING TO MANAGE SPORTS IN THE FUTURE?

u/7 and u/8 HOCKEY, NETBALL and RUGBY	During their Kinderkinetics sessions, held during school hours, learners will be identified for additional training. Learners who demonstrate the necessary skills and understanding of the game will therefore be given preference.
u/9 – u/13 HOCKEY	Mondays – Match Day Tuesdays – Skills and fitness Wednesdays – Practice Day
u/9 – u/13 NETBALL and RUGBY	Tuesdays – Practice Day Wednesdays – Skills and fitness Thursdays – Match Day
You will receive a revised sports programme on Tuesday, 21 July 2026.	

FINANCE

The vision of School Governing Body is:

Vredenburg Primary School is committed to excellent education with moral values and principles so that each learner can develop holistically.



THANK YOU TO PARENTS WHO FAITHFULLY PAY THEIR SCHOOL FEES. Please note that only 27 of the 40 teachers at Vredenburg Primary School are paid by the WCED, and an additional 4 general workers and 3 administrative staff are employed through school funds to maintain our standards. **We are incredibly proud of the buildings and facilities, as well as the opportunities that are created here.** Few schools can offer the quality of education and the diversity of participation opportunities for only R1 250 per month.

SPORTS REPORT

Our sports programme delivered top quality sport stars: **NETBALL**

Abbey Coraizen (11 years old) and **Deonne Samuels** (12 years old) have been selected for the West Coast netball teams that will take part in the Inter-district Tournament in Bredasdorp from 15–18 July.

HOCKEY

Elliot du Toit (12 years old) has been selected for the Boland IPT hockey team that will take part in the national tournament in Johannesburg from 27 June – 1 July.

Ethan du Toit (12 years old) has been selected for the Boland Pinotage team, and **Charl van Heerden** and **Joel Ross** (13 years old) have been selected for the Boland Shiraz team, which will take part in the regional tournament in Paarl from 28 June – 1 July. **Stefan Engelbrecht** has been selected for the Boland 5's team (14 years old), and will take part in the Winter Games (Eastern Cape).

RUGBY

Liam Laubscher (13 years old) is representing the West Boland rugby team at the final round of Boland trials.

TENNIS

Allan Olwagén (12 years old) is taking part in the second round of West Coast tennis trials.

CRICKET

Yane Human (12 years old) has been selected for the Daisies T20 cricket team, and **Tristan Smit** (14 years old) has been selected for the Guardians T20 cricket team. The tournaments will take place from September to December 2026.



CULTURE – STAFF CONCERT

“Laugh, and the world laughs with you;

Weep, and you weep alone.”

Thank you for the love, appreciation, and positive feedback that flowed from this “team-building” effort – we know that it is not easy to be parents in today's times. **It is also not easy to be a teacher.**



COMMUNICATION

We understand that parents have professional lives and also manage families, just like our staff. Let us therefore **RESPECT** the following guidelines:

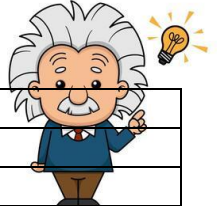
- ✓ **Unless it is an emergency, no WhatsApp or phone calls before 06:30 in the morning or after 19:00 in the evening.**



- ✓ If you do not receive feedback from the relevant teacher within 24 hours, you may contact them again. If there is still no response within 48 hours, you may contact the office.
- ✓ **A parent who “feels” uninformed is definitely not in the correct group(s).**

ACADEMICS – TOP 10

Excellence in **TEACHING** and **LEARNING** is the primary aim and function of LAERSKOOL VREDENBURG. Some learners simply make use of every learning opportunity:



GRADE 4

1	COMBRINCK, ALEXIS
2	VAN NIEKERK, MIA
3	HILL, DEVAN
	STEENKAMP, JEAN LOUIS
4	GOUWS, ELOREES
5	DE RAEDT, SKYLER
6	JACOBS, LIENKE
7	LOURENS, LIEKE
8	VAN BLERK, MICAH
9	KHUSELO, LULO
10	MOHAMED, CULLEN

GRADE 5

1	MATTHEWS, KOURTNEY
2	BEZUIDENHOUT, MARNUS
3	MILSTEIN, AYLA
4	PIETERSE, CHRISLU
5	SWIGELAAR, BRE
6	FERNANDEZ, ZOE
	LOUBSER, JANOS
7	MASON, TAYEGHEN
	POTGIETER, ALEXANDER
8	EIGELAAR, HENDRIK
	HAHNE, TAYLOR ANN
9	FOURIE, NINA
10	WILLIAMS, MIA

GRADE 6

1	NELSON, ROSSOUW
2	OLWAGEN, ALLAN
3	KAMNQA, ABULELE
4	PIENAAR, ANSUNET
5	HUMAN, YANE
6	NIEUWOUDT, LIENKA
7	DERCKSEN, JOHAN
8	CAMPBELL, ROMAY
9	LOMBARD, AMORE
10	KOEKEMOER, CISCA



GRADE 7

1	OLIVIER, GENISA
2	BUYS, MARNUS
3	DU PLESSIS, LUKE
4	FOURIE, ANDRIES
5	THERON, RJ
6	VAN LILL, AMELIA
	VAN ZYL, LANA
7	ROSS, JESSE
8	KNUTSEN, ANGELLE
9	PLAATJIES, CALVIN
10	LE ROUX, JUAN

SCHOOL ADMISSION 2027

Grade R, 1 and 8 applications are currently in process.



Applications to be transferred from one school to another opens 3 – 17 August (gr 2 – 12).

STAFF AFFAIRS



Teacher Liesl Louw (Grade R) welcomed a baby boy on 25 May. May this little one bring you nothing but joy. We thank **Teacher Erna Engelbrecht** who filled in during the maternity leave period. **Your experience and love are invaluable!**

Today we also say goodbye to **Teacher Rene Basson**, Grade 3. Quietly, you have left a big footprint, and we will truly miss your **dedication** and **willingness** to assist with any task.

We know that Stellenbosch Primary School is gaining a gem, and that you will likely be able to teach them a few things. May you always give ONLY YOUR BEST.



In place of Ms Basson, the School Governing Body has already made a new appointment: **Teacher Shaune Coetzee**. We wish her all the best!

SCHOOL CALENDER 2027

As published in the Government

Gazette 52178 of 25 February 2025:



TERM 1	13 January – 19 March 2027
TERM 2	6 April – 25 June 2027
TERM 3	20 July – 22 September 2027
TERM 4	5 October – 8 December 2027

IMPORTANT DATES THIRD TERM 2026

DATE	DAY	ACTIVITY
21 July	Tue	SCHOOLS OPEN (extramural starts)
23 July	Thu	League matches vs Langebaanweg (away) – RUGBY EN NETBALL
28 July	Tue	Grade 6 Excursion
29 July	Wed	Parent afternoon / evening (per appointment)
1 Aug	Sat	VPS SPORTS DAY
3 Aug	Mon	WBE: Junior and Senior choirs (Swartland PS)
4 Aug	Tue	
5 Aug	Wed	WBE: Speech choirs (gr 1 – 7)
6 Aug	Thu	Curro, Langebaan
10 Aug	Mon	PUBLIC HOLIDAY
15 Aug	Sat	SPORTS vs GERICKE (away)
17 Aug	Mon	WBE: Gr 1- 3 Recitals (Vredenburg PS)
18 Aug	Tue	
19 Aug	Wed	WBE: Gr 6 – 7 Recitals (Vredenburg PS)
20 Aug	Thu	
24 Aug	Mon	WBE: Gr 4 – 5 Recitals (Hopefield HS)
25 Aug	Tue	
25 Aug	Tue	Grade 3 Excursion
2 Sept.	Wed	SPUR "SHADOW" staff
10 – 15 Sept.		GRADE 4 – 7 TEST WEEK
18 Sept.	Fri	CIVVIES DAY
21 Sept.	Mon	CULTURE EVENING
22 Sept.	Tue	COLOUR-RUN (mass participation) CULTURE EVENING
23 Sept.	Wed	Schools close 10:45.

Lastly:

Spend precious **TIME** with you're child(ren)! Today is already a **GIFT** and **PRIVILEGE**. Tomorrow is not guaranteed.

ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS!

THE INFLUENCE OF A GOOD
Teacher
CAN NEVER BE ERASED